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DATE: April 2, 2004

TO: Art Unit 1638

COMPANY: USPTO

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FROM: LILA A. T. AKRAD

NUMBER OF PAGES (Including cover): 4

Please file the attached **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**:

APPLICANT : **CHAPKO, et al.**
SERIAL NO : 10/741,792
FILED : December 19, 2003
TITLE : **INBRED MAIZE LINE PH7JD**

Grp./A.U. : 1638
Examiner : **MEHTA, Ashwin D.**
Conf. No. :
Docket No. : **P06247US01 - PHI 1369**

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

It is respectfully requested that this Preliminary Amendment be entered and made of record. The Preliminary Amendment presents new claims for consideration and cancels claims in the original application in an effort to simplify and expedite prosecution of the above case. No new matter is presented, as such the Amendment is proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.115. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration.

Introductory Comments

Claims 1-39 are pending in the present application.

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION (37 CFR 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being:

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Date: April 2, 2004

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LILA A. T. AKRAD